

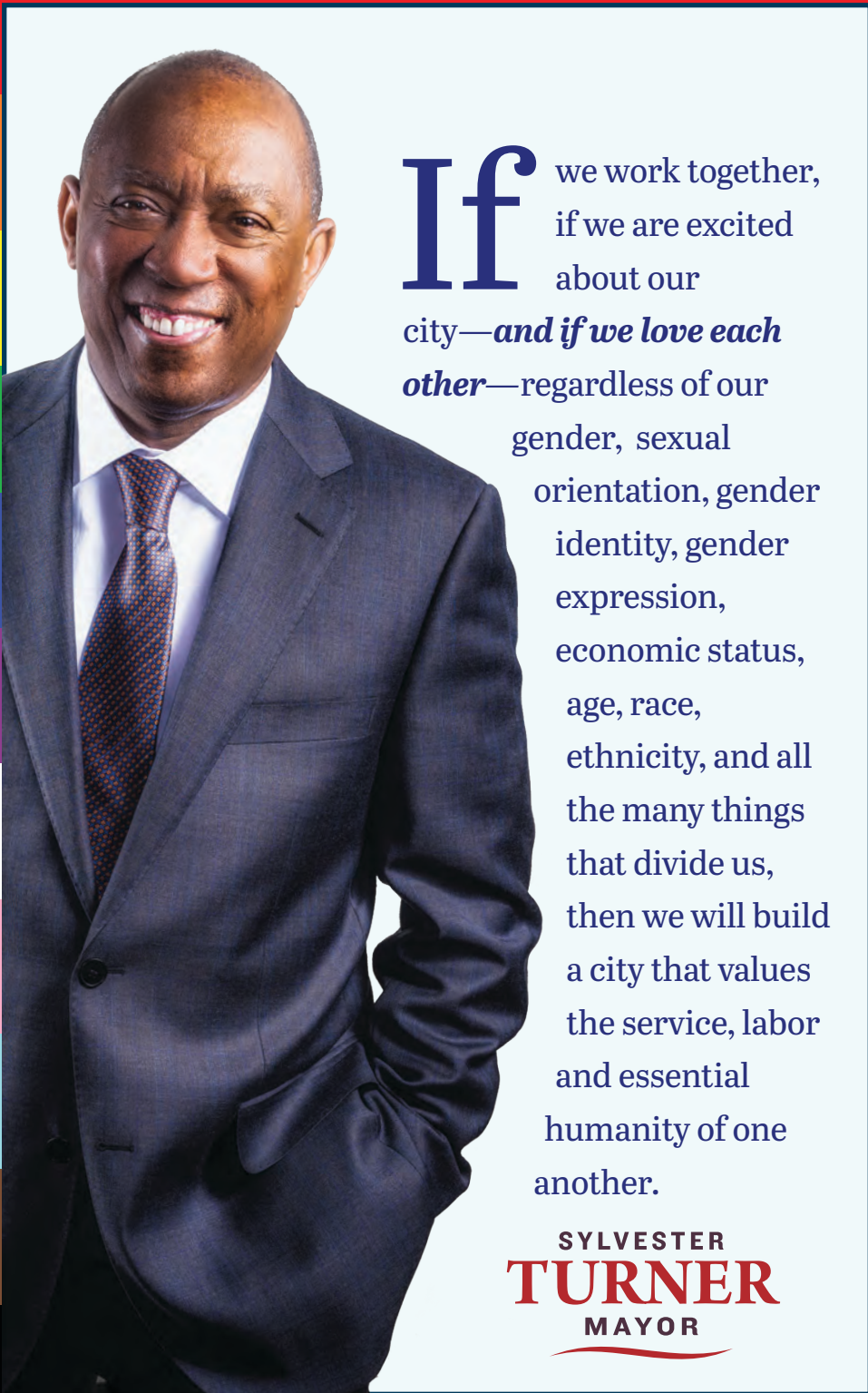
HOUSTON

THE ★ CAUCUS

13TH ANNUAL EQUALITY BRUNCH

**NOT
GOING
BACK**

PRESENTED BY
TEXAS STATE SENATOR JOHN WHITMIRE



If we work together,
 if we are excited
 about our
 city—*and if we love each
 other*—regardless of our
 gender, sexual
 orientation, gender
 identity, gender
 expression,
 economic status,
 age, race,
 ethnicity, and all
 the many things
 that divide us,
 then we will build
 a city that values
 the service, labor
 and essential
 humanity of one
 another.

SYLVESTER
TURNER
 MAYOR

PROGRAM

Welcome.....Lisa Foronda Harper
 Emcee

President’s Remarks.....Jovon Alfon B. “LuJack” Tyler

Presenting Sponsor.....State Senator John Whitmire

Keynote Speaker.....Stephanie Byers
 Kansas State Representative

PerformanceHarrison Homer-Guy

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

PerformanceHarrison Homer-Guy

Appeal.....Representative Sheila Jackson Lee

AWARDS CONTINUED

PerformanceHarrison Homer-Guy

Benediction.....Rev. Dr. Rick Ward-Harder

Closing Remarks.....Jovon Tyler

My name is Angela Lancelin and I am your democratic candidate for Judge of the 245th District Court of Harris County.

I earned my law degree from Texas Southern University. My family law career began in 1992, and in 1995 I joined the Texas Attorney General's Office.

As a public servant I am committed to protecting the safety and rights of all residents of Harris County, by enforcing the laws enacted to protect them.

Thank you for your support and vote.

EARLY VOTING
October 24, 2022
GENERAL ELECTION
November 8, 2022.

To learn more about my campaign visit:
Voteangelalancelin.com



2022 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Jim Cotton
President's Award
Alexis Melvin

Monica Roberts Award
Joëlle Bayaa-Uzuri Espeut

Annise D. Parker
Public Service Award
Maria Gonzalez

Eleanor Tinsley
Ally Award
County Commissioner
Adrian Garcia

Bayard Rustin
Civil Rights Award
State Representative
Jolanda Jones

Don Hrachovy Lifetime
Achievement Award
Lane Lewis

Tim Brookover Excellence
in Media Award
Queer Voices

Dennis Spencer
Service Award
Francisco Sanchez

Kristen Capps Social
Conscience Award
Christian Menefee

Barbara Cigainero
Volunteer of the Year
Award
Pat Strong

WE'RE **NEVER**
GOING BACK.



POL. ADV. ANN JOHNSON CAMPAIGN

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thegoldenleaf@icloud.com
🎵 📷 [the_goldenleaf_](https://www.instagram.com/the_goldenleaf_)



AWARD RECIPIENT BIOS

JOËLLE ESPEUT

Joelle Bayaa-Uzuri Espeut (she/her/hers) is a writer, creative, and social advocate who currently works with The Normal Anomaly Initiative, Inc. Serving as Director of Programming, she oversees the ancillary programs, including Transgender Ally Collective, as well as the P.O.W.R. program (Positives Organizing Wellness and Resilience) and Project Liberate (a 6-month intensive leadership development program).

Deeply committed to activism, Joelle also serves as the first Black Trans Woman elected to the Board of Trustees of The Houston LGBTQ Political Caucus. Joelle has worked with AIDS United, GLAAD, Gilead/Compass Initiative, Transgender Law Center, and Emory University. She was awarded The Mahogany Project, Inc.'s Rising Star Phoenix Award in 2020, as well as the 'Carrying The Torch' Award at 2022's Houston TransPride. As a writer, Joelle has been published in the queer publications Spectrum South, the Trans Griot, and Q26.



ADRIAN GARCIA

Born and raised in Houston's Northside neighborhood, Commissioner Adrian Garcia has always called Harris County Precinct 2 home. Elected in 2018, Adrian Garcia is serving as Commissioner for Harris County Precinct 2. His career in public service began as a Houston Police Officer when he patrolled the streets of Houston, meeting residents and investigating serious and violent crimes. Before serving as Harris County

Commissioner Precinct 2, Commissioner Garcia served as Councilmember for the City of Houston and as the first Latino Harris County Sheriff. As a champion for the underserved and underrepresented, Commissioner Garcia directed the construction of the first All-Inclusive park in Precinct 2 AND Harris County, to serve the needs of all people. In his spare time, Commissioner Garcia enjoys bike riding, reading autobiographies, traveling with his family, and cooking.



MARIA GONZALEZ

María C. González is currently the Martha Gano Houston Research Professor of English Literature at the University of Houston with expertise in American literature, Mexican-American novelists, Chicanx writers, and Feminist and Queer Theory. Gonzalez is the author of *Contemporary Mexican American Women Novelists: Toward a Feminist Identity* and co-editor of *Voices Breaking Boundaries*' three volume series collection

of transnational art and essays, *Borderlines*. She has written essays or presented on ethnic and gender curricular expansion, pedagogy, and LGBT Studies, as well as on political activism. A past president, vice-president, screening chair, and board member of the Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus, Gonzalez is the treasurer of Texas Transgender Nondiscrimination Scholars. Gonzalez is also a civic activist and has served as a Precinct Chair for the Harris County Democratic Party and a Presiding Precinct Judge in her neighborhood precinct.





JOLANDA JONES

Jolanda “Jo” Jones rose from a childhood of poverty and tragedy to membership in numerous Halls of Fame, a CNN Hero, a 4-time national track and field champion, a basketball All-American, a Rhodes Scholar nominee, a successful business woman, author and an unapologetic human rights activist, a Houston City Council member and school board Trustee, a respected analyst who has interviewed with Roland Martin, Tom

Joyner and Jacque Reid, and is on the cover of Curve Magazine. Today, Jolanda serves as a Texas State Representative for House District 147. She has been the moral conscience and the voice of the disadvantaged and disenfranchised in every elected body in which she has served. She is a go-to person who fights for and stands up to those who seek to oppress. She grew up in a union household and absolutely believes in the invaluable power of unions. Jolanda is most proud of her amazing son, Giovanni, who is a Dean’s List college graduate, and a lawyer.



ALEXIS MELVIN

Alexis Melvin is a gender-fluid transgender woman. Beginning in the mid-1960s, she worked as a grassroots community organizer to challenge discriminatory policies and work to elect pro-equality policy makers. An independent consultant, transgender activist, photographer, charity fundraiser, and lecturer located in Houston Texas, she is president of the Transgender Foundation of America, the Managing

Principal and Senior Consultant for MCONSERV consulting, and the Managing Associate of InVoter.us. Alexis formerly served as Chair of the Houston Transgender Unity Committee (HTUC), is a past member of the Board of Trustees of the Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus, a founding member of International Foundation for Gender Education, and an initial member of TransGender San Francisco. As a successful independent consultant, she provides consulting services to multinational corporations, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and public charities.



LANE LEWIS

A Pasadena/Deer Park native, Lane began his career as a Social Worker, counseling emotionally disturbed adolescents. At 22 years old, Lane co-founded HIPY, a residential center to help LGBTQ+ and HIV+ homeless youth off the streets. A dedicated community activist, Lane was an active member of Queer Nation and Act-Up, served on the National Executive Committee of Stonewall 25, was an advisor to Houston’s Health and Human Services

department, and is a former board member and president of the Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus. In 1998, Lane found and befriended two defendants named John and Tyron that allowed him to find them legal representation in a case that he felt would challenge 21.06, Texas’ anti-sodomy law. This became the 2003 Supreme Court case “Lawrence v. Texas,” which improved the rights and liberties of LGBTQ+ people across the United States. Now, at 54, he continues to be active in The Caucus and currently owns and manages the Lane Lewis Insurance Agency.



CHRISTIAN MENEFEE

As the Harris County Attorney, Christian D. Menefee is the chief civil lawyer for the largest county in Texas. He manages an office of 250+ attorneys and staff who represent the county, its 60 elected officials, and its 18,000+ employees in all civil matters and lawsuits. Elected at 32 years old, he is the youngest person and the first African-American to serve as Harris County Attorney. Prior to taking office, Christian practiced at

Kirkland & Ellis LLP, focusing on complex commercial litigation and bankruptcy matters in federal court, and representing clients in matters involving the US Department of Justice, the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and other government agencies. The son of two veterans, Christian attended public schools in Harris County and was the first in his family to attend college. He is a graduate of The University of Texas at San Antonio, and Washington University St. Louis School of Law.



QUEER VOICES

Queer Voices endeavors to be Houston's source for news and concerns for the LGBTQ community. Gay Radio has a long history in Houston. Queer Voices began in 2002 after being previously known as Lesbian & Gay Voices which had in turn replaced Wilde n' Stein, the original gay radio program on KPFT. Gay community icon Ray Hill was one of the founders, and hosted Wilde 'N Stein from July 1975 to 1980, at which time

he became KPFT's manager. Since that time, The list of long-time volunteer broadcasters of the show include Deborah Bell, Suzanne Anderson, Glenn Holt, JD Doyle, Bryan Hlavinka, Jenifer Rene Pool, Andrew Edmonson, Matthew Williams and Summer Einman. The current hosts are: Bryan Hlavinka (executive producer), Deborah Moncrief Bell, Jack Valinski and engineer Glenn Holt. Queer Voices airs at noon on Friday on 90.1FM KPFT. Queer Voices is available as a podcast wherever you may find podcasts.



FRANCISCO SANCHEZ

Francisco Sanchez Jr. is the Associate Administrator for SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance. Before the SBA, Mr. Sanchez served as Deputy Homeland Security and Emergency Management Coordinator for the Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, leading strategic development, planning, public affairs, and community preparedness initiatives for Texas' largest county. Under his leadership, the county

has responded to historic hurricanes, flooding, wildfires, and major industrial incidents. In addition, Mr. Sanchez has served as a leader or member of several emergency response efforts, including Incident Commander for the initial Harris County emergency management response to COVID-19 and on the FEMA National Advisory Council-Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Subcommittee, as well as Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Ike. He is a graduate of the University of Houston and Sam Houston State University.



Presenting Sponsor
State Senator John Whitmire

Champion of Progress
County Commissioner Adrian Garcia
Gilbert Garcia
Pat Strong

Guardian of Progress
Bill Baldwin
Chris Hollins
SCI, Dignity Memorial

Protector of Progress
Beto for Texas
County Commissioner Rodney Ellis
Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher



SPONSORS CONTINUED

Protector of Progress Cont.

Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia
and Council Member Robert Gallegos
Congressman Al Green
Harris County Probate Courts
Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo
and County Attorney Christian Menefee
Richard Holt & Dr. Mark A. McMasters, MD
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Judge Jim Kovach and Harris County
District Clerk Marilyn Burgess
Katharine Ligon, MSW & Megan Mooney, Ph.D
Kylie McNaught, MSW - HCDP
Stephen Miranda and Daniel Williamson
Judge Donna Roth
Judge Leah Shapiro
Jim Taylor

Entertainment Sponsors

Council Member At-Large Sallie Alcorn
Judge Beau Miller
Jovon Tyler
Jeff Watters

2022 Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus Officers, Board of Directors, and Leadership Team Members

Jovon Tyler	President
Mario Castillo	Vice President, Board Chair
Austin Davis Ruiz	Secretary
René Mendiola	Treasurer

Luis Adame	Brandon Mack, M.Ed
Joëlle Espeut	Daniel Williamson
Katharine Ligon, MSW	

Judson Dunn	Piper Madland
Januari Fox	Odyssey Oakengrove
Christyna Lewis	

Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus Pioneers

Pokey Anderson	Lee Marsters
Bill Buie	Jerry Miller
Hugh Crell	Gary Van Ooteghem
Rev. Robert Falls	Robert Schwab
Carl Hayes	

Previous Keynote Speakers

1986	David Scondras, Boston City Council
1987	Barney Frank, U.S. House of Representatives
1988	Dr. Mathilde Krim, Cofounder of AmFar
1989	Steve Schultze, Mayor of West Hollywood
1990	Art Agnos, Mayor of San Francisco
1991	Bill Scott, Texas Board of Health
1992	Andrew Sullivan, Editor of <i>The New Republic</i>
1993	Torie Osborn, Executive Director of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force
1994	Michelangelo Signorile, Author of <i>Queer in America</i>
1995	Donna Red Wing, National Field Coordinator, GLAAD Jose Zuniga, Author of <i>A Soldier Of The Year</i>
1996	Jim McIngvale, Owner of Gallery Furniture

Previous Keynote Speakers Continued

- 1997 Margo Frazier, Travis County Sheriff
- 1998 Kerry Lobel, Executive Director of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force
- 2012 Matthew Breen, Editor-in-Chief of *The Advocate*
- 2020 Pete Buttigieg, Mayor of South Bend & Democratic Candidate for President of the United States
- 2021 Malcolm Kenyatta, Pennsylvania State Representative

Previous Equality Brunch Presenting Sponsors

- 2019 Sheila Jackson Lee, U.S. House of Representatives
- 2021 Sylvester Turner, Mayor of Houston

Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus Past Presidents

- 1975-1977 Gary Van Ooteghem
- 1977 Don Hrachovy
- 1977-1978 Jim Cotton
- 1978-1980 Steve Shiflett
- 1980-1981 Lee Harrington
- 1982-1983 Larry Bagneris
- 1984 Norman Guttman
- 1984-1985 Sue Lovell
- 1986-1987 Annise D. Parker
- 1988 David Fowler
- 1989 Ray Hill
- 1990 Dennis Spencer
- 1991 Larry Lingle
- 1991 Toni Knight
- 1992-1993 Christopher Bacon, Esq.
- 1993 Terri Richardson
- 1994 Gary Van Ooteghem
- 1994-1995 Terri Richardson
- 1996 Pat Gandy
- 1997 Lane Lewis
- 1998 Rev. Burton Bagby-Grose
- 1999 Carl Smith

Past Presidents Continued

- 2000 Sean Carter
- 2001 Debra Rogers
- 2002-2004 Dr. Kenneth Jones, MD
- 2005-2006 Maria Gonzalez, PhD
- 2006-2008 Jenifer Rene Pool
- 2009-2010 Kristopher A. Banks, Esq.
- 2011-2014 Noel A. Freeman, MPA
- 2014-2016 Maverick Welsh
- 2016-2017 Fransheneka "Fran" Watson, Esq.
- 2017 Frances Valdez, Esq.
- 2018-2020 Mike Webb
- 2020 Katharine Ligon, MSW
- 2020-2022 Jovon Alfon B. Tyler



Kristen Capps Social Conscience Award

The Kristen Capps Social Conscience award is given to a person whose deeds and life work exhibit social conscience concerns for the dignity and equality for the LGBTQ+ community.

- 2017 Alan Dettlaff
- 2018 Kandice Webber
- 2019 Landon Richie
- 2020 Chris Hollins
- 2021 JD Doyle+

Don Hrachovy Lifetime Achievement Award

The Don Hrachovy Lifetime Achievement award is given to the person who has shown a life-long commitment to the rights of the LGBTQ+ community. Don Hrachovy spent thousands of hours maintaining the confidential mailing list, the cornerstone of the LGBTQ+ voting bloc. The dedication of this early Caucus president continues to inspire volunteers today. This award was also named the Distinguished Caucus Member and Tim Brookover as a lifetime achievement honor.

Don Hrachovy Award

1986	Cicely Wynne
1987	Don Hrachovy
1988	Joe Thornton
1989	Jack Valinski
1990	David Fowler
1991	Pat Hall
1992	Ray Hill
1993	Annise Parker
1994	Eugene Harrington
1995	Jim Owens
1996	Toni Knight
1997	John Kellett
1998	Carmen Pollock
2020	Monica Roberts
2021	Ray Ramirez

Tim Brookover Award

2013	Marion Coleman
2014	Ellen Cohen
2016	Greg Jeu
2018	Bill Baldwin
2019	JD Doyle

Distinguished Member Award

2014	Kirsten Capps
2015	Leslie Jackson
2016	Maria Gonzalez
2017	Kris Banks
2018	Jim Taylor
2019	Judson Dunn

Monica K. Roberts Trans Advocacy Award

The Monica K. Roberts Trans Advocacy award recognizes someone who has educated, advocated, and created political change for the BIPOC trans community.

2020 Ana Andrea Molina

2021 Roxanne Collins

Bayard Rustin Civil Rights Award

The Bayard Rustin Civil Rights award is given to a person who has advocated for the recognition and civil rights of the LGBTQ+ community. The award was created to commemorate the 1988 Silver anniversary of the March on Washington for Civil Rights and Jobs, is named after the gay civil rights pioneer who organized the historic march.

1988	Craig Washington
1990	Eugene Harrington
1991	Beverly Clark
1992	Sue Lovell
1993	Phyllis Frye
1994	Brian Bradley
1995	Keith Stewart
1996	Dale Carpenter
1997	Gary Van Ooteghem
1998	Annise Parker
2020	Black Lives Matter: Houston
2021	Harrison Homer-Guy

Eleanor Tinsley Ally Award

The Eleanor Tinsley Ally award goes to the distinguished community ally who fights for civil rights for the LGBTQ+ community.

2009	Garnet Coleman
2010	Sheila Jackson Lee

Eleanor Tinsley Ally Award Continued

2011	John Whitmire
2012	Anna Milliken Eastman
2013	Shondra Wygal
2014	Jerry Davis
2015	Sarah Schimme
2016	Erika Richie
2017	Sylvia Garcia
2018	Alan Rosen
2019	Project Curate
2020	Lillie Schechter
2021	Al Green

Annise D. Parker Award

The Annise D. Parker award honors the public official who shows great courage on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community. This award was previously named for the first openly gay supervisor of the City of San Francisco, Harvey Milk.

Harvey Milk Award

1987	Lance Lalor
1989	Debra Danburg
1990	Art Agnos
1991	Bob Bullock
1992	Katy Caldwell
1993	John Whitmire
1995	Sheila Jackson Lee
1996	Garnet Coleman
1997	Debra Danburg

Annise D. Parker Award

2020	Mary Gonzalez
2021	Ann Johnson

Tim Brookover Excellence in Media Award

The Tim Brookover Excellence in Media award honors members of the community for their significant contributions in media to the LGBTQ+ community.

2020	Isiah Carey
2021	Dalton DeHart

Jim Cotton President's Award

The Jim Cotton President's Award is given to an individual who has contributed to the LGBTQ+ community in significant ways. Originally named The Caucus President's Award, it was renamed after Jim Cotton, who served as the organization's first Black president in 1977.

2009	Steven Kirkland
2010	Christina Gorcynski
2011	Kathy Hubbard
2013	Liz James
2014	Mark Eggleston
2016	Melanie Espinosa Pang
2018	Atlantis Narcisse
2018	Parker Sheffy
2019	Lorin Roberts
2020	Julie Mabry
2021	Larry Bagneris

Dennis Spencer Service Award

The Dennis Spencer Service Award, named after the 1990 Caucus President, is an award given for an individual's contributions to The Caucus and the LGBTQ+ community.

1991	Dennis Spencer
1992	Brian Keever
1993	Kevin Davidson
1994	Cicely Wynne

Dennis Spencer Service Award Cont.

1995 John Freeman
1996 Gary Grant
1997 Chris Bacon
1998 Jimmy Carper

Barbara Cigainero Volunteer of the Year Award

The Barbara Cigainero Volunteer of the Year Award is given to an outstanding volunteer who has contributed significantly to The Caucus. It recognizes individuals for their time, talent, and efforts given to the organization.

1986 Phil Batdorg & George Coe
1987 Carmen Pollock
1988 Sylvia Ayers
1989 Bill Willis
1990 Richard Prawitz
1991 Kevin Davidson
1992 Bill Willis
1993 Robbie Cavanaugh
1994 Lou Vanech
1995 Patrick McKee
1996 Patrick McIlvain
1997 Scott Tillinghast
1998 Dr. Clari Koepsel
2020 Luis Adame
2021 Christyna Lewis



***SPECIAL
THANKS***

The Equality Brunch could not have happened without the help and support of the following individuals and businesses:

Liz Bellinger and TVision
Kansas State Representative
Stephanie Byers
The Caucus Board and Leadership Team
The Caucus Volunteers
Harrison Homer-Guy
Javier Jiminez at
The Golden Leaf Floral & Design
Mayor Annise Parker & Kathy Hubbard
The Post Oak Hotel at Uptown Houston
Mark Solano
State Senator John Whitmire

Congratulations Pat
on your well deserved honor!

From your Strong Strategies Team -
Shelby Castillo, Kiera Taylor, Jimmy Wynn,
Christina Harston, Kim Sosa, & Joy Saxton

**ROBERT K.
SCHAFFER**

==== JUDGE ====
152ND CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

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JUSTICE!



JUDGE

Mike Engelhart

for COURT OF APPEALS

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THANK YOU

Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus
for the work you do to elect progressive candidates

CONGRATULATIONS

Award Recipients

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